

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

Howard County

May 2015 Edition

Welcome!

It's official – HCPSS announced the last day of school is June 19th with schools closing two hours early on June 18th and three hours early on June 19th. As the school year winds down, this newsletter continues to provide events and ways to stay engaged in our community. For more up-to-the-minute information, **"Like" me** on Facebook or **"Follow" me** on Twitter (@CalvinBallTeam). You can also register for County updates through [NotifyMeHoward](#).

Have questions, comments, concerns or ideas on how we can be doing better to serve Howard County? I invite you to call my office at 410-313-2001 or email me at cball@howardcountymd.gov.

If you would like to register and receive this newsletter, email "subscribe" to cball@howardcountymd.gov and I will be happy to add you to our distribution list!



Dr. Calvin Ball, District 2

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Camp Day

Enjoy a FREE day of fun with your family at the park as you learn all about the many summer camps Howard County's Department of Recreation & Parks offers. Camp Day will be hosted on **Saturday, May 2, 2015 10am-2pm** at Centennial Park. You'll have a chance to meet with camp staff, as well as enjoy making crafts, playing games, face painting, sports, watching demonstrations and more. For more information, go [online](#) or contact **Matt Medicus** at 410-313-4719.

Long Reach Village Center Urban Renewal Plan Community Meetings Begin

In 2013, I introduced and the Council subsequently passed legislation that authorized the County to purchase the Long Reach Village Center. That purchase was finalized in February 2015. I want to personally thank all those who called my office, connected with the village board or the administration as we have valued your feedback. In keeping with the spirit of community engagement, we have scheduled four sessions to discuss the future of the Long Reach Village Center and the development of an Urban Renewal Plan. The first community session was held Thursday, April 30. Additional sessions will be held **7-9pm** at the Stonehouse: **May 28, June 11 and September 17**. Can't attend but still want to share your feedback? The County's [website](#) will soon accept online feedback and feature comments from the first session.

I invite you be a part of our community conversation about a shared vision for the future of our Long Reach Village Center! This conversation would benefit from your voice. I believe our plan must be bold and build upon our strengths while captivating the imagination about what could be. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call my office at [410-313-2001](tel:410-313-2001) or email me at cball@howardcountymd.gov.

Your Views Count – Community Input Forum

The Howard County Department of Citizen Services, Office on Aging seeks public input on its services, programming and potential service gaps. Older adults, service providers and other stakeholders are encouraged to attend a Community Input Forum hosted on **Tuesday, May 5 11am-12:15pm** at the Bain Center, 5470 Ruth Keeton Way in Columbia. Share your ideas and suggestions and make a difference! For more information, call **410-313-6410**.

Cycle2Health Howard County Season Kickoff

Residents are invited to learn more about a non-competitive, peer-led bicycling club. Cycle2Health is for adults of all riding abilities. The event will be held on **Thursday, May 14 9:30am** at East Columbia 50+ Center in the parking lot, 6600 Cradlerock Way in Columbia and will feature free bike safety checks and mini-clinics hosted by various on-site vendors. Cycle2Health holds daytime weekday and some weekend rides, departing from various locations. For more information, go [online](#) or call Jennifer Lee at **410-313-5940** or email JLee@howardcountymd.gov.

CA's 9th Annual Dog Day Afternoon

Woof! There it is! Local canines — and their people — are invited to a free afternoon of contests, treats, activities and lots of tail-wagging fun. Columbia Association (CA) is hosting their 9th annual Dog Day Afternoon on **Saturday, May 2, 11am-3pm** at Columbia DogPark, 5901 Rivendell Lane, adjacent to the Harper's Choice Village Center in Columbia.

Dog lovers can enter their four-legged friends into the Tail-Wagging Contest; Most Fashionable Fashion Show; Bone-Eating Contest; Columbia's Cutest Canine Contest; and more. Additional entertainment may include raffles, music, food — yes, for dogs and for humans — pet demos, face painting, a moon bounce (for people only), caricature artists, and an arts and crafts station sponsored by Columbia Art Center. For more details, go [online](#).

Men's Health & FitnessFest!



Join us on **Saturday, May 30, 2015** for the annual U Can Win, Community Resource Day and Howard County Men's Health & FitnessFest at Celebration Church in Columbia – Doors open at 10am!

There will be fun activities for the whole family along with important health and wellness information and resources. More than 3-dozen organizations are uniting their energy to make this a Winning family event! Enjoy karate and fitness demonstrations, live healthy cooking demos, samples of healthy food exhibitors, resources from health professionals, free health screenings including glaucoma, blood pressure, kidney disease, diabetes and much more. For those in need, we will also host a FREE food distribution event for qualifying families and individuals sponsored by NPAC & the Maryland Food Bank.

This event will go on rain or shine **10am-2pm** at Celebration Church located at 6080 Foreland Garth, Columbia, MD 21045. For more details, email Kimberly Pruim at kpruim@howardcountymd.gov or call **410-313-2001**.

Disaster Preparedness Course

Take advantage of a course that provides you and your family with the knowledge and skills to better prepare for and get through a disaster in your community. Members from the County's Office of Emergency Management will host a Disaster Preparedness Training Course on **May 14, 2015 6:30-8:30pm** and lead participants through the steps to develop and maintain your readiness. It will be held at the Howard County Library System Miller Branch, 9421 Frederick Road in Ellicott City. From reviewing the history of catastrophic events in the region, to maintaining a stock of necessary supplies and dealing with utility emergencies, this course prepares you with the information needed to help keep you and your family safe. For more information or to register, call 410-313-6030 or

2015 Howard County Farmers' Markets Begins

Foodies looking to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables from area farmers will be able to do so when the 2015 Howard County Farmers' Market season opens May 6, 2015. It will run through November 22. Howard County will have seven convenient locations where shoppers will find fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, cheese, eggs, baked goods and much more! The locations, times and dates include:

Howard County Library-Miller Branch (9421 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City)

Hours of Operation: Wednesdays 2-6pm; Season: May 6-November 11

Oakland Mills Village Center (5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia)

Hours of Operation: Sundays 9am-1pm; Season: May 10-November 22

Howard County General Hospital (5755 Cedar Ln, Columbia)

Hours of Operation: Fridays 2-6pm; Season: May 8-October 30

East Columbia Library Market (6600 Cradlerock Way, Columbia)

Hours of Operation: Thursdays 2-6pm; Season: May 7-November 19

Ellicott City Old Town Farmers' Market (Uptown at the Win Bin and Midtown at Little French Market)

Hours of Operation: Saturdays 9am-1pm; Season: May 9-October 31



For more information or other locations, visit <http://howardcountymd.gov/farmersmarkets/index.html>.

Bike to Work Day

Those who live and/or work in Howard County are encouraged to park their cars and bike to work **Friday, May 15, 2015** as part of Bike to Work Day 2015. This annual event promotes a clean, fun, healthy way to commute and is part of our region's Clean Commute Initiative. All participants are invited to start their morning off with Howard County Office of Transportation at Whole Foods in Columbia, 10275 Little Patuxent Parkway for a kickoff event 7-9am featuring food, drinks, raffle prizes and more!

All participants will receive a free shirt. For more information or to register for this FREE event, visit www.bike2workcentralMD.com.



Wine in the Woods 2015



Join us on **Saturday, May 16, 11am – 6pm** (Wine Taster: \$32 advance; \$40 at gate; Designated Driver and youth \$25) and **Sunday, May 17, 11am – 5pm** (Wine Taster: \$27 advance; Designated driver and youth \$20) at **Symphony Woods, 5950 Symphony Woods Road, Columbia**, for Howard County's 23rd annual Wine in the Woods, as we celebrate the charm and character of an event that has aged to perfection! Sample a variety of Maryland's finest wineries from a souvenir glass; purchase food from an abundance of high quality, distinctive restaurants and caterers; sharpen your palate by attending wine education seminars; purchase exceptional works of art and specialty crafts; and revel in continuous live entertainment. While all guests are welcome to attend, this is not an event intended for children as wine is being served for which you must be of legal drinking age, 21 years and older, to taste and purchase. For more information or to purchase your ticket, visit www.wineinthewoods.com. The event is held in rain or shine; no pets allowed.

County's Budget FY2016

The county budget is the plan that shows the sources of county money and the ways it may be expended. The county budget consists of legislation to enact the operating and the capital budget, which are described below, and several related bills and resolutions. The county's budget includes all taxes, fees, and other revenue sources for the county and some affiliated agencies. Expenditures may only be made as the budget allows. The County Executive presents a proposed budget to the County Council. The Council may decrease proposed expenditures, but may not increase them or change the form of the budget. The Council adopts a budget each year on or before the first day of June. To learn more about the budget process visit our website by [clicking here](#). The FY2016 Capital Budget and Operating Budget as proposed by the County Executive are available [online](#).

May Budget Schedule:

5/4 at 7:00p - Constant Yield Hearing

Legislative Hearing (Introduction of Budget Bills)

5/6 at 8:30a - Work Session - Operating Budget - Public Safety, Public Facilities

5/11 at 9:30a - Work Session - Work Session - Community Services; General Gov't

1:00p - Public Hearing - Capital and Operating Budget

5/12 at 7:00p - Public Hearing - Capital and Operating Budget - Education (Schools-HCPSS, College-HCC, Libraries-HCLS)

5/14 at 8:30a - Work Session - Capital and Operating Budget - Education (Schools-HCPSS, College-HCC, Libraries-HCLS)

1:00p - Work Session - Capital and/or Operating Budget - pending issues

5/19 at 8:30a - Work Session - Capital and/or Operating Budget - if needed, pending issues

5/20 at 11:00a - Legislative Session - Budget Legislation

**These dates are subject to change. For the Council's Budget calendar, go [online](#).*

You may testify in person at a Public Hearing. If you choose to speak, please click here to sign up to testify before the hearing. Testimony is limited to three minutes for an individual or five minutes for a group. Written testimony may emailed to the entire Council at: councilmail@howardcountymd.gov at any time during the budget process.

H2O – Help to Others

H2O, Help to Others, is a program where residential water and sewer customers are able to make donations to help customers with delinquent accounts facing disconnection of service. Those who participate are able to round up to the next highest dollar amount, make on-going, or one-time donations to the program. This service was authorized by legislation passed by the Council in October 2014 and established an initial funding source through our Department of Public Works but it will take generous neighbors to sustain the funding. The County selected a non-profit, Family and Children Services, to administer the program and verify the need of those seeking assistance. Those facing disconnection of water services should contact the County's Department of Finance Water and Sewer Division at **410-313-2058**

Collision Avoidance Training

The HC Police Department will be conducting Collision Avoidance Training (CAT) classes March-December. This is an advance defensive driving and vehicle control program for licensed teen driver's ages 16-20. This one day program (8.5 hours) is designed to provide young drivers with the knowledge and understanding of vehicle dynamics and will provide practical exercises that demonstrate how the vehicle responds in a given situation and how to regain control of the vehicle. Driving skills addressed include: evasive maneuvers, threshold/emergency braking, forward serpentine, cornering, backing, reverse serpentine and skid and off-road recovery.

Students must operate their own vehicle and successfully complete each driving skill/maneuver to receive a certificate of completion. Cost is \$95. Sessions are: **May 16, June 27, July 25, August 22, September 19, October 17, November 21 and December.** For more details, contact Ms. Jessica Beram at 410-313-3758 or email JBeram@howardcountymd.gov.



There will be NO COLLECTIONS on Monday, May 25. All recycling, trash & yard trim collections will slide and be made one day later that week.

Kid's Day



A fun-filled day designed just for kids, KidsDay is an annual welcome-to-summer event hosted by Columbia Association. This year's event will be held **Saturday, June 6th 10am-2pm** at the **Columbia Sports Park, 5453 Harpers Farm Road, Columbia**. KidsDay is FREE and open to the public. Come learn more about our youth programs, classes, camps and special offers from our various Columbia Association departments. Enjoy a free day of super fun kids activities and come dressed to play! Food, beverages, snacks and ice cream available for purchase. For more information go [online](#) or call 410-715-3169.

SavageFest

[SavageFest 2015](#) promises a day of fun for young and old, including: live music from local bands, magic shows with Magic in the Mill, historic reenactments with Joshua Barney, and a historic walking tour through town, pony rides, a petting zoo, and a moon bounce for kids, dance and martial arts demonstrations, raffle items donated by local businesses, over 50 booths featuring crafts, food, and community information. Mark your calendar for this lively community event!

This event will be held **Saturday, June 6, 2015 10am-5pm** at the Baldwin Common and Carroll Baldwin Hall in Savage.

ARTreach Community Arts Festival

Join us for ARTreach, a free, one-day, community arts festival outdoors at the Long Reach Village Center on **Saturday, June 20, 2015 11am-4pm**. The arts vital to building positive, thriving places to live, work and play. Help us engage the community and re-imagine Long Reach – **the village with a heart** – by infusing its center with visual, literary, and performing arts! For more information, check out our [website](#) or call 410-313-2787. .



Low Intensity Support Services (LISS)!

Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) are grants up to \$2,000 to assist adults with development disabilities and families with a child with developmental disabilities with purchasing services and/or items to address needs. MD residents who have a developmental disability, their family or authorized representative may apply. Requests can be submitted **January 1-31 and July 1-31** of each year.

For more details or to receive a copy of the application, go [online](#) or contact the LISS agency serving Howard County: Penn Mar Human Services, 410-357-0891; 1-877-282-8202; TTY: 711 or email LISS@penn-mar.org.

Settlement Downpayment Loan Program!

Looking to buy a home or relocate in Howard County? Howard County Housing has invested \$400,000 to the Department's Settlement Downpayment Loan Program (SDLP) that will offer homebuyers a deferred second mortgage loan, to be used by those preapproved for settlement costs and downpayments. Buyers must agree to occupy the home as their primary residence. Interest rates are set at 2 percent below the first mortgage interest rate and repayment of the loans is deferred until resale, refinance or default.

Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents ages 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

To schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of Howard County's toll free number: 1-800-506-5806.



Calling All Youth and Teens!

Get involved and be a part of the solution. Have fun and make new friends! Columbia Association's Teen and Middle School Advisory Committee is now seeking young individuals to attend monthly meetings and help get involved in their community by planning, organizing and implementing positive programs and activities for their peers.

HS students (Ages 13-19) and MS students (Ages 11-13) are invited to call **410-992-3726** or email CA Teens@ColumbiaAssociation.org to sign-up. Meetings are the third Thursday of the month **6:30-8pm** at the Youth & Teen Center in The Barn, **5853 Robert Oliver Place** in Columbia.

Exciting Youth Opportunities to Stay Active and Involved!

One of my missions is to provide awareness of programs within Howard County that provide a positive outlet for our youth. This allows them to channel their inner talent and participate in positive activities. Listed below you will find helpful links for parents and youth. I encourage you to share this information with friends, families, neighbors and most importantly, your children.

4H Club: For youth grades 3+. Meets **2nd Friday of the month** at The Other Barn **3:30-5pm**. Call **410-992-3726** for more info

Art Attack: Creative after-school enrichment program at Columbia Art Center. Meets **1st & 2nd Mondays**. Registration/Fees may apply. Call **410-992-3726**.

Columbia Teen Center **410-992-3726**

[Howard County Library](#)

Voices For Change: Email Meg Mekelburg for more info MMekelburg7@verizon.net

Make a Difference in a Student's Life... A-Ok Mentors Needed!

A-OK (Assist Our Kids) Mentoring-Tutoring, Inc. is now recruiting adult volunteers to be mentor-tutors to HCPSS students who need extra support and encouragement to succeed. Volunteers meet with students individually or in small groups, during the school day and in after school programs. A-OK seeks dependable community members who can commit to one hour/week for one school year.

Participating elementary schools are: Atholton, Bryant Woods, Cradlerock, Forest Ridge, Guilford, Longfellow, Phelps Luck, Running Brook, Stevens Forest and Swansfield. There are also limited opportunities to meet with older students. For more info, call Chaya Kaplan at aokmentor@gmail.com or call **410-730-6030**.

Scholarships For Students!

As an educator, I know the value and importance of education. I also know that many families often struggle with financing the dream. Below is a sample of scholarships available. I encourage your students to apply early.

"Aspiring Animation Professional" Scholarship Program

Deadline: June 1, 2015; Winners announced July 2015, scholarships paid August 2015

Description: Limited to HS seniors in the US pursuing an animation related degree program at an accredited post-secondary school or college.

"Aspiring Fashion Professional" Scholarship Program

Deadline: June 1, 2015; Winners announced July 2015 and scholarships paid August 2015; Award: \$1,000 for one year, non-renewable

Description: For HS seniors in the US who intend to pursue a fashion related field at an accredited post-secondary school or college. Have a demonstrable record of academic success and a passion and drive for a fashion related career. Selection based on academic performance combined with student's application essay.



TotallyHoCo – Howard County's new online calendar!



Have you ever wanted a centralized place to see many of the events happening locally? Maybe you are looking for a way to let more local people know about the event you're hosting. There's a new online calendar in Howard County that can help you find, share and post events! It's TotallyHoCo.com, and it's free to use. Check out the categories of events such as Family Friendly, Music, Game Nights, Arts & Culture, Girls Night Out and more!

In Need of Crisis Intervention?

Grassroots is a private, non-profit agency serving Howard County and Central Maryland which empowers people in crisis to make positive changes by offering professional 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter and outreach services. They provide programs and services including a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, Maryland Crisis Hotline, Walk-in Counseling, Mobile Crisis Team, Suicide Prevention, outreach and education, a 33-bed Family Shelter, an 18-bed Men's Shelter, a Motel Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter and Day Resource Center.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc. is located at **6700 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044**. For more information, please call **410-531-6006** or visit their website online at www.grassrootscrisis.org. The 24-hour line is **410-531-6677** and the MD Crisis Hotline is **1-800-422-0009**.

Financial Assistance Corner

We are experiencing an unprecedented economic recession and while Howard County may be consistently identified as one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, our residents and families are feeling the squeeze of this economic crisis. I receive a lot of calls to my office asking for referrals and county assistance so I wanted to take a moment and dedicate a section in my Newsletter identifying resources to help our residents save money.

TAX CREDITS: The most quick and efficient way to reduce your expenses is to consider the tax credits available to you as Howard County residents. For your convenience, I have listed examples below as well as their respective online application; however you can find a complete list and instructions on how to apply at <http://countyofhowardmd.us/Services.aspx?id=6442458618> or by calling **410-313-4076**. Please note that some of these credits are based upon fund availability, so please contact the office directly for the most up-to-date information.

Livable Home Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Senior Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1492>

Homeowners Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1558>

Homestead Tax Credit: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead.html>

Energy Conservation Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442455147>

Daycare Provider Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Amateur Sports Athletic Fields Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Surviving Spouse of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Community Associations Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Renovation of Historic Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Trash Collection Fee Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Free Financial Coaching!

MyBudgetCoach was launched by MakingChange in partnership with [Maryland CASH Campaign](#) and helps working families & individuals improve their ability to budget and make well-informed financial decisions. Understanding the importance of budgeting is generally recognized as the first step in successful financial planning. Participants meet with a trained volunteer coach once a month for 12 monthly sessions. Budgeting techniques, financial management and goal attainment strategies are included. Participants and coaches use on-line tools to track progress in real-time.

Contact the MyBudgetCoach Relationship Manager, **Leslie Petak**, at petakl@makingchangecenter.org if you are interested in participating in the program. MakingChange provides group seminars and personal coaching to teach people to manage their money and change their lives. Its programs are offered in schools, human service agencies and businesses. For more information, visit www.makingchangecenter.org.

Howard County Safety... Helpful Hints!

- Experiencing an Emergency? Dial 9-1-1
- Want to report an incident, non-emergency? Call 410-313-2200
- Need to report drug activity? Call 410-290-3784
- Want to make an anonymous tip (e.g. child abuse, violence, gangs, gambling, school incidents, underage drinking, damage to property etc.)? Call 410-313-7867 or email GangTips@howardcountymd.gov
- Want to report gun crimes? Call 410-313-7867 or email CToler@howardcountymd.gov.
- Do you need Victim Assistance? Call 410-313-3712 or email KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov
- Interested in a FREE Home Security Survey? Call 410-313-4795 and leave a message to make an appointment.
- Looking to prevent Auto Theft? Helpful tips available [online](#).
- Want to report an animal cruelty incidence or report unwanted pets, endangered animals, etc.? Call 410-313-2780, email animalcontrol@howardcountymd.gov or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/animalcontrol.htm>
- Interested in a Police Ride-Along? Call 410-313-2208 for an application
- Need a HCPD Spanish line? Call 410-313-7807.
- Interested in volunteering with the HCPD? Call 410-313-2255
- Interesting in HCPD Recruitment? Call 410-313-4273.

Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!



The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard County Police Department and the community which is designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation and encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors. For more information, please contact the Howard County Police Department at 410-313-2200.

Give the Gift of Independence!

YOU can give seniors the gift of independence by volunteering as a Neighbor Ride driver. Flexible and rewarding daytime, evening and weekend opportunities are available. No set schedule is required. Drivers simply choose to provide rides that are convenient to their homes, offices and daily routines. Parent volunteers are welcome and encouraged to bring their children along for a wonderful experience. Please contact **Patrice Cerwonka, Colleen Konstanzer or Rosemary Noble** at 410-884-RIDE (7433) or email volunteer@neighborride.org for more information.

"Guaranteed Ride Home"!

A program that gives a **FREE** ride home to commuters who travel to work via mass transit, car-pooling or walking at least twice a week is coming to Howard County. "Guaranteed Ride Home" offers regular commuters a free ride home in a taxi or rental car up to four times a year and is funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation. To be eligible to participate in the program, commuters must register [online](#) or call 1-800-745-RIDE (7433).

Alzheimer's Support Groups in Howard County!

Howard County proudly offers several Alzheimer's Support Groups at various locations throughout the County during days and times that are geared at accommodating the needs of those impacted by Alzheimer's. Pre-screening is required. For support group locations in Howard County, click [here](#). For more information on the Alzheimer's Association, call 1-800-272-3900 or go [online](#).

Recycling... Do's And Don'ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, click [here](#) or call 410-313-6444. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call 410-313-7678 or go [online](#).

Transparency in Our Government!

If you believe there has been an instance of fraud, waste, and/or abuse in our government, we want to hear from you! Allegations of Fraud, Waste and Abuse in Howard County Government should be submitted to the Howard County Auditor's Office. All submittals are encrypted and password protected for security. We treat all allegations in a confidential matter and we'll do our very best to safeguard your identity!

To report an allegation, visit <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Auditor/Online-Form-to-Report-Fraud-Waste-and-Abuse>. If you do not wish to disclose your identity, you may remain anonymous; however, you should be aware that remaining anonymous may preclude a thorough investigation of your allegation due to insufficient information.

For more information, email hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov or call 410-313-2005.

I Want to Hear From You!

As your Councilmember, it's my mission to engage with you and your community. Your testimony is always welcome as the Council considers legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email to Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov or fax 410-313-3297.

All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room A, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**. You can view our calendar [here](#).

Dr. Calvin Ball
Howard County Council
[District 2](#)
[Email Me](#)
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

"Everybody can be great... because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."
~ Martin Luther King, Jr.